

DIVO Needle Exchange is a health organisation concerned with the health needs of Dunedin's Injecting Drug Users (IDU)

DIVO Needle Exchange is a point of contact for primary preventative intervention among IDU

Inspired by the Ottawa Charter

Based on peer service model and harm reduction philosophy

Harm Reduction in a Needle Exchange Context

Shared use of injecting equipment carries a high degree of risk. It is one of the most effective ways to transmit HIV and Hepatitis C.

Inhibiting the spread of these diseases among Injecting Drug Users, their sexual partners, children and the broader community is acknowledged by most public health professionals to be a crucial public health strategy.

The Rationale for Needle Exchange

This approach aims to reduce the harmful effects on health which result from injecting drug use. It does not condone the use of illegal drugs, but accepts that drug use continues to exist despite legal prohibition.

Harm reduction rationale

Many individuals choose to inject drugs for varying periods of time despite exposure to drug education and treatment programs

These people are provided with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions regarding risky behaviour

The wider (non drug using) community faces a potentially far greater danger from the spread of HIV and hepatitis than from any other negative effect of injecting drug use

The harm reduction model accepts that in the absence of a cure, the only effective way to reduce the spread of blood borne diseases among IDU is to facilitate positive behavioural changes

Needle Exchange offers an excellent point of contact to educate IDU on an individual basis. Safe injecting and safe sex messages can be given and reinforced through regular personal contact

MOH – Ministry Of Health Funded

NEST – *Needle Exchange Services Trust* - Responsible for distribution, collection and destruction of sharps from NEP outlets

NENZ –*Needle Exchange New Zealand* - A National Coordinator oversees 8 parent bodies throughout NZ

- ▶ 19 Needle Exchanges
- ▶ Over 200 Pharmacies act as outlets
- ▶ NZ Needle Exchanges work on a National level
- ▶ Based on the principles of the Ottawa Charter
- ▶ Peer based service model
- ▶ Harm reduction philosophy
- ▶ Public health organisation.





Peer Service
NEP sites
2008

Local Needle Exchanges

Community Needle Exchanges in New Zealand are unique in that they provide peer based needle exchange, health education and health promotion to their local communities and are governed by local trust boards. Each Trust operates its own services at one or more locations, usually under contract to the
Ministry of Health

SERVICES :

Needle Exchange shop – user pays

Electronic Dispensing Machine offering 24 hour availability

24 hour used needle return chute

Free doctor service

Blood testing service

1-4-1 (new for used) program introduced 2004

Mainline Magazine

Dedicated Outreach Service – Maori Outreach Worker

Peer Education Service

Up to date information on safe injecting, BBV's, safe sex

Workshops

Support, advice, referral

RWC – 181a Hereford Street Christchurch



RWC – 108 Seaview Rd New Brighton



RWC West Coast Rural Outreach Service

Originated from recommendations of 2002 NZ NSEP review by Campbell Aitken which identified areas like the West Coast with little to no NEP coverage

**Proposal for West Coast Service written by Charles Henderson
(national coordinator NEP)**

Free service that visits Key Contacts once a month to pass on harm reduction kits, offer up to date info on safe injecting and BBV, support, advice and referral

Regular meetings held in Westport throughout the year offering Key Contact training sessions, group supervision and a forum for feedback

Workshops - training for Key Contacts covering Hep C, safe injecting techniques, care of abscesses, wheel filter use, needles/syringes and the law

Networking with other like minded services, chance to update information

West Coast Vehicle





RWC Health Promotion



Hepatitis C Awareness Week



- **Other Health Promotion Strategies**

- **Posters**
- **Resources**
- **Billboards**
- **Radio & T.V**
- **Newspapers**
- **Promotional Events**
- **Word of mouth**
- **Hepatitis C Clinic**
- **Consumer group / client involvement with exchange**